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(b) whether the rule has been enforced in any case; and

(c) whether the rule is still in force or it has been cancelled ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c) : Do not arise.

Conference of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Panchayat Unions

* 259 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to hold a Conference of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Panchayat Unions; and

(b) if so, the reasons for holding this conference annually ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Madras as 'A' Class City

* 260 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken by the Government to get Madras City classified as 'A' Class City?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : No, Sir. It will not be appropriate for the State Government to offer any suggestions to Central Government in regard to the allowances to be paid to their employees. The classification of Madras as 'A' Class City is significant only in respect of allowances to be drawn by the Central Government employees.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Do not the Government consider that Madras City should be classfied as 'A' Class City?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it is one thing for the Government to have certain views and it is another thing to make representations on matters which are exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Central Government. The question was 'Whether we have made representations' and I said, 'We did not'.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : When the Government think that there is justification to ask Madras City to be classified as 'A' class City, why should they be reluctant to put it before the Central Government ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, the hon. Member is arguing.